Hib.5.649.2

CERTAIN ACTS AND DECLARATIONS made by the Ecclesiasticall Congregation of the Arch-bishops, Bishops, *and other Prelates.*

Met at *Clonmacnoise* the fourth day of *December* 1649. *And since Concluded.*

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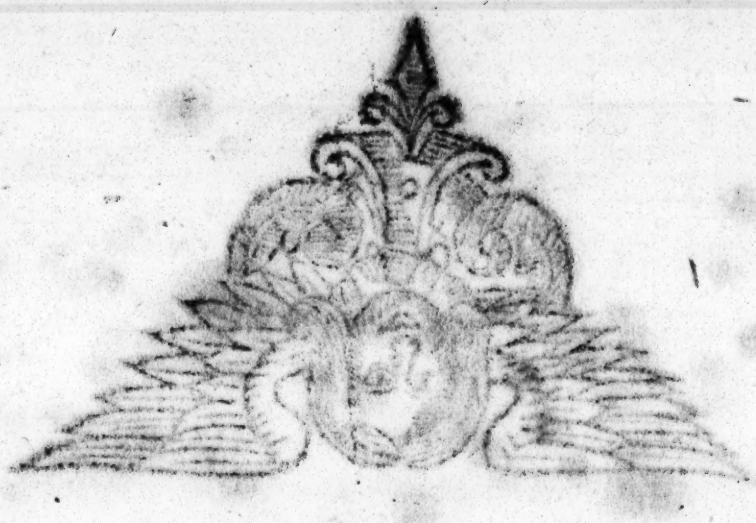

ECCLESIASTICAL CURIOS-

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DECLAMATIONS

AND

ACTS

CERTAIN

By the Eccleſiaſticall Congregation of the Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and other Prelates.

WHereas heretofore many of the Clergy and Laity did in their actions and proceedings expreſſe much diſcontents and diviſions of minde, grounding the ſame on the late difference of Opinion happened amongſt the Prelats and the Layty, by which the Nation was not ſo well united, as was neceſſary in this time of great Danger, wherein all, as with one heart and hand ought to oppoſe the Common Enemy. We the Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and Prelates of this Kingdome met *motu proprio*, at *Clonmacknoſe* 4 *Decembris* 1649, having removed all differences among us (not entring into the merits of diverſities of former opinions) thought good for removing of all jealouſies from our owne thoughts, hearts and reſolutions, and from others, who had relation, or were adherent to the former diverſity of opinions, to manifeſt hereby to all the world that the ſaid diviſions, and jealouſies grounded thereupon, are now forgotten, and forgiven among us on all ſides as aforeſaid. And that all and every of us, of the above Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and Prelates are now, by the bleſſing of God, as one body united, And that we will, as becommeth charity and our paſtoral charge ſtand all of us as one intire body, for the intereſt and immunities of the Church and of every the Prelats and Biſhops thereof, and for the honour, dignity, eſtate, right, and poſſeſſion, of all and every the ſaid Archbiſhops, Biſhops and other Prelates. And we will as one intire and united body forward by our counſailes, actions and deviſes the advancement of his Majeſties Rights, and the good of this Nation in general and in particular occaſions, to our power, and that none of us in any occaſion whatſoever concerning the Catholicke Religion, or the good of this Kingd. of *Ireland*, will in any reſpect ſingle himſelf, or be, or ſeem oppoſite to the reſt of us, but will hold ſame and intire

in one ſence as aforeſaid; hereby deteſting the actions, thoughts and diſcourſes of any that ſhall renew the leaſt memory of the differences paſt, or give any ground of future difference among us, And do in the name of Ieſus Chriſt exhort all our flock to the like brotherly affection and union, and to the like dereſtation of all paſt differences or jealouſies as aforeſaid, ariſing hitherto among them. And we deſire that this our declaration be printed and publiſhed in each Pariſh by command of the reſpective Ordinaries. *ut videant opera veſtra bona & glorificent Patrem veſtrum qui in Cœlis eſt.*

Datum apud Clonmacnoſe 13 *Decemb.* 1649.

Signed by, *Hugo Ardmachanus. Fr. Thomas Dublin. Thomas Caſhel. Joan Archiep. Tuam. Fr. Boetius Elphyn. Fr. Edmundus Laghlinenſis & Procurator Waterfordienſis, Emerus Clogher, Robertus Corcagienſis & Cluanenſis. Nicholaus Fernenſis. Edmundus Limericenſis. & Procurator Epiſcopi. Oſſorienſis. Franciſcus. Aladenſis. Andræus Finiborenſis. Joan. Laonenſis. Fr. Oliverus Dromorenſis, Fr. Antonius Clonmacnoſenſis. Fr. Hugo Duacenſis. Fr. Arthur Duneuſis, & Connerenſis. Fr. Terentius Imolacenſis, Fr. Patr. Arsdagh. Oliverius. Deis Procurator Epiſco. Medenſis. Dr. Joa. Huſſey Procurator Epiſco. Ardfertenſis. Fr. Joannes Cantwell Abbas. S. Crucis. Dr. Thadeus Clery Epiſcop. Rapo. Procurator, Fr. Gregorius o Ferraile Provin. Ordinis Prædicatorum Provin. Hiber. Fr. Thomas Mackeyernane Provin. Fratrum Minorum Provin. Hiber.*

Walterus Clonfertenſis Congregationis Secretar.

By the Eccleſiaſticall Congregation the Kingdome of IRELAND.

WEE the Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and other Ordianries, and Prelats of the Kingdome of *Ireland*, having met at *Clonemacnoſe proprio Motu* the fourth day of *December* in the year of our Lord God 1649. to conſider of the beſt meanes to unite our flocks, for averting Gods wrath fallen on this nation, now bleeding under the evills, that famine, plague and warre bring after them, for effecting a preſent union, decreed th' enſuing Acts.

1 We order and decree as an Act of this Congregation, that all Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ordinaries within their respective Dioceses, shall injoyn publick prayers, fasting, Generall Confession, and Receiving, and other works of piety *toties quoties* to withdraw from this Nation Gods anger, and to render them Capable of his mercies.

2 We order and decree as an act of this Congregation, that a Declaration issue from us letting the people know how vaine it is for them to expect from the Common Enemy commanded by *Cromwel* by authority from the Rebells of *England*, any assurance of their Religion, Lives, or Fortunes.

3 We Order and decree as an Act of this Congregation, that all Pastors and Preachers be injoyned to preach amity. And for inducing the people thereunto to declare unto them the absolute necessity that is for the same, and as the cheife meanes to preserve the Nation against the extirpation & destruction of their Religion and Fortunes resolved on by the Enemy. And we hereby do manifest our detestation against al such divisions between either Provinces or Families: or between old English and old Irish, or any the *English* or *Scots* adhering to his Majesty. And we decree and order that all Ecclesiasticall persons fomenting such dissentions, or unnaturall divisions, be punished by their respective Prelats, and Superiours, *Juxta gravitatem excessus, & (si opus fuerit) suspendantur beneficiali & Pastores a beneficio & officio ad certum tempus, Religiosi autem a Divinis juxto circumstantias delicti.* Leaving the Layty offending in this kind, to be corrected by the Civil Magistrate, by Imprisonment, Fine, Banishment, or otherwise, as to them shall seem best, for plucking by the root, so odious a crime; the execution whereof we most earnestly recommend to all those having power, and that are concerned therein, as they will answer to God for the evills that thereout may insue.

4 We *Decree* and *Declare* excommunicated, those high way robbers commonly called the Idle Boyes, that take away the goods of honest men or force men to pay them Contribution, and we likewise declare Excommunicated all such as succour or harbour them, or bestow or sell them any victualing, or buy Cattle or any other thing else from them wittingly, Likewise all Ecclesiasticall persons ministring sacraments to such robbers,

or Idle boyes; or burying them in holy grave, to be ſuſpended *ab officio & beneficio, ſi quod habent*, by their reſpective ſuperiours *juxta gravitatem delicti*. This our decree is to oblige within fifteen dayes after the publication thereof in the reſpective Dioceſes.

Signed by,

Hugo Ardmachanus. Fr. Thomas Dublin. Thomas Caſſhel. Joan. Archiep. Tuam. Fr. Boetius Elphyn. Fr. Edmundus Laghlinenſis & Procurator Waterfordienſis. Emerus Clogher, Robertus Corcagienſis & Cluanenſis. Nicolaus Fernenſis. Edmundus Limericenſis, & Procurator Epiſcopi Oſſorienſis. Franciſcus Aladenſis. Andreas Finiborenſis. Joan. Laonenſis. Fr. Oliverus Dromorenſis, Fr. Antonius Clonmacnoſenſis. Fr. Hugo Duacenſis. Fr. Arthurus Dunenſis, & Connerenſis. Fr. Terentius Imolacenſis. Fr. Patric. Ardagh. Oliverius Deis Procurator Epiſco. Medenſis. Dr. Joannes Huſſey Procurator Epiſcop. Ardfertenſis. Fr. Joannes Cantwell Abbas. S. Crucis Dr. Thadeus Clery Epiſcop. Kapo. Procurator.

Walterus Clonfertenſis Congregationis Secretar.

By the Eccleſiaſticall Congregation of the Kingdome of Ireland.

WE the Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and other Ordinaries and Prelats of this Kingdome of *Ireland*, having met at *Clonmacnoſe proprio motu*, on the fourth day of *December*, in the yeare of our *Lord God* 1649. taking into our conſideration among other the affaires then agitated and determinated for the preſervation of the kingdome, that many of our flock are miſled by a vaine opinion of hopes, that the Commander in chiefe of the Rebels Forces, commonly called the Parliamentaries, would afford them good conditions, and that relying thereon they ſuffer utter deſtruction of Religion, lives, and fortunes, if not prevented. To undeceive them in that their ungrounded

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expectation, we do hereby declare as a moſt certaine truth, that the Enemies reſolution is, to extirpate the Catholique religion, out of all his Majeſties Dominions, as by their ſeverall Covenants doth appear, and the practice where-ever their power doth extend, as is manifeſted by *Cromwels* Letter of the 19 of *Octob.* 1649 to the then Governour of *Roſſe*. His words are: *For that which you mention concerning liberty of Religion, I meddle not with any mans Conſcience, bnt if by liberty of Conſcience, you mean a liberty to exerciſe the maſſe, I judge it beſt to uſe plaine dealing, and to let you know, where the Parliament of* England *have power, that will not be allowed of.* This tyrannicall reſolution they have put in execution in *Wexford, Drogheda, Roſſe* and elſewhere. And it is notoriouſly known, that by Acts of Parliament, called *The Acts of Subſcription*, the Eſtates of the Inhabitants of this kingdome are ſold, ſo as there remaineth now no more, but to put the purchaſers in poſſeſſion, by the power of Forces drawn out of *England*. And for the common ſort of people, towards whom if they ſhew any more moderate uſage at the preſent, it is to no other end but for their private advantage, and for the better ſupport of their Army, intending at the cloſe of their conqueſt (if they can effect the ſame as God forbid) to root out the Commons alſo, and plant this land with Colonies to be brought hither out of *England*, as witneſſe the number they have already ſent hence for the Tobacco Iſlands, and put enemies in their places.

And in effect this baniſhment or other deſtructions of the

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mon people, muſt follow the reſolution of extirpating the Catholique Religion, which is not to be effected without the maſſacring or baniſhment of the Catholique Inhabitants.

We cannot therefore in our duty to God, and in diſcharge of the care wee are obliged to have for the preſervation of our flocks, but admoniſh them, not to delude and looſe themſelves with the vaine expectation of conditions to be had from that mercileſſe Enemy. And conſequently we beſeech the Gentry, and Inhabitants, for Gods glory, and their own ſafety, to the uttermoſt of their power, to contribute with patience, to the ſupport of the Warre againſt that Enemy, in hope that by the bleſſing of God, they may be reſcued from the threatned evils, and in time be permitted to ſerve God in their Native Country, and enjoy their Eſtates, and fruits of their labours, free from ſuch heavy levies, or any other ſuch taxes as they beare at preſent: Admoniſhing alſo thoſe that are inliſted of the Army, to proſecute conſtantly according to each mans charge the truſt repoſed in them, the oppoſition of the Common Enemy, in ſo juſt a Warre, as is that they have undertaken for their Religion, King, and Country, as they expect the bleſſing of God to fall on their actions. And that to avoyd Gods heavy judgement, and the indignation of their Native Country, they neither plunder nor oppreſſe the people, nor ſuffer any under their charge, to commit any extortion or oppreſſion, ſo far as ſhall lye in their power to prevent.

Signed by

Hugo Ardmachanus. Fr. Thomas Dublin. Thomas Caſſhel. Joan Archiep. Tuam. Fr. Boetius Elphyn. Fr. Edmundus Laghlinenſis & Procurator Waterfordienſis, Emerus Clogher, Robertus Corcagienſis & Cluanenſis. Nicolaus Fernenſis. Edmundus Limericenſis, & Procurator Epiſcopi Oſſorienſis. Franciſcus Aladenſis. Andreas Finiborenſis. Joan. Laonenſis. Fr. Oliverus Dromorenſis, Fr. Antonius Clonmacnoſenſis. Fr. Hugo Duacenſis. Fr. Arthurus Dunenſis, & Connerenſis. Fr. Terentius Imolacenſis, Fr. Patric. Ardagh. Oliverus Deis procurator Epiſco. Medenſis. Dr. Joannes Huſſey procurator Epiſco. Araſſerienſis. Fr. Joannes Cantwell Abbas. S. Crucis. Dr. Thadeus Clery Epiſcop. Rapo. Procurator,

Jacobus Cloſſenſis Congregationis Scriptor.

FINIS. Imprimatur, Henry Scobel. Cler. Parliamenti.